



BOOK ENDS ORIENTATION 2020

Orientation overview

- New first-time-in-college students complete a questionnaire and are preregistered for fall classes.
- Students arrive to campus on Saturday, August 22 to move in to residence halls.
- Faculty advisors meet with advisees on campus during orientation to get to know them and to make any needed adjustments to fall course schedules.
- Bookends academic orientation consists of two afternoon sessions focused around a common lesson plan that builds on the Bookends reader that new students will receive in the mail over the summer.
- The academic orientation “bookends” three days of immersive experiences, led by continuing students and ranging from wilderness options based at Camp Parsons (e.g., backpacking and canoeing) to urban options based in Tacoma and the surrounding community (e.g., a focus on service or a focus on theatre).
- During the immersive experiences, new students work on a brief writing assignment, practicing the skill of juggling homework with other things, learning how to use key campus systems for a low-stakes assignment.
- Students have the weekend of August 29-30 to get settled into their residence halls, to be joined by continuing students, and to get rested and ready for the first day of classes.

Bookends goals

- Introducing academic skills
 - Close reading
 - Writing to learn
 - Collaborative learning/small group discussion
- Introducing elements of campus academic identity
 - Using common readings that explore Puget Sound as a place, through several disciplinary lenses
 - Exploring the concept of the liberal arts college
 - Exploring the complex and contested meanings of “community” at the University of Puget Sound
- Modeling the rhythm of a class, by including a homework assignment and time for separate experiences between the two Bookend days
- Introducing students to essential college success concepts (e.g., time management and active reading practices) and to campus academic resources

Bookends schedule

Sunday, August 23

- 2:30-3:00 p.m. Welcome
- 3:00-4:30 p.m. Assertion Exercise: “An Octopus”
- 4:30-5:00 p.m. Community & the Bookends Assignment

Friday, August 28

- 1:00-2:10 p.m. Debriefing the Bookends Assignment
- 2:10-2:50 p.m. Community and the Liberal Arts
- 2:50-3:50 p.m. Understanding and Rising to Expectations

Changes over the past two years

- Mapping exercise
- Video on college expectations part
- Slight changes to readings

Benefits of teaching in Bookends

- Getting to welcome students to campus and to the academic culture
- Getting to work with first-year students, especially if you don't normally
- Opportunities to try new pedagogies
- Shared academic experiences among a large body of students and faculty
- \$800

The faculty workshop on May 7

- 8:30 a.m.- 12:45 p.m. (for new faculty: Orientation to Bookends curriculum; lunch included)
- 12:45 - 4 p.m. (for all Bookends faculty: Curriculum updates and logistics; inclusive pedagogy)